

CONFIDENTIAL

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Thursday - 1 July 1971

1. (Confidential - JMM) Talked to Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel and Staff Director, Senate Armed Services Committee, who feels that, because of the Administration's inability or unwillingness to clearly explain its policies in Laos to the Senate, there is a good chance that Senator Symington's amendment limiting U. S. expenditures in Laos for FY 72 for \$200 million would pass in one form or another.

2. (Confidential - JMM) Discussed with Representative Frank Bow (R., Ohio) prospects for the above mentioned Symington amendment in the House. Bow strongly doubted that the amendment will pass at least in its present form.

3. (Confidential - JMM) Raised with Frank Slatinshek, Assistant Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, a question of the prospects of the Symington amendment in the House. Slatinshek agreed with Braswell that unless the Administration more clearly defines and justifies its policies in Laos, the amendment may well pass in the House.

4. (Unclassified - JMM) Talked to David Abshire, Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, who said he had discussed the Case bill on RFE/RL with Senator Javits (R., N. Y.), who confided that if Senator Case would not push these bills vigorously, Javits himself would do so.

5. (Internal Use Only - PLC) Lieutenant Burson, Navy Legislative Liaison, called to say that Navy will send its comments to the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee supporting H. R. 9064 which authorizes educational financial aid to children of Government civilian employees missing or captured in Vietnam. Lt. Burson stated that H. R. 9064, introduced by Representative Bob Wilson (R., Calif.), is the same as the bill which Navy was preparing. Lt. Burson stated that only the Civil Service Commission had been requested by the Committee to submit comments. He understands the Commission reported unfavorably based on the problem of funding. Lt. Burson will keep us informed.

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